

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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SOURCE:

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1. In source's opinion, a Third World War is the only chance for any of the Soviet satellites to break away from the USSR. Although source has never heard any conversation among the population of the USSR about a Third World War as a means of liberation, he feels that the population is waiting for and wants it. For example, resistance in the Ukrainian SSR was very strong for three or four years after World War II. A special MVD division was sent to the Ukraine to combat this resistance activity and major military engagements took place. At present, all overt military resistance in the Ukraine has been liquidated; however, resistance is still alive. To a much lesser degree resistance is still alive in the Baltic republics, but nowhere else in the USSR. There is no resistance in Siberia, and source feels that any resistance there is impossible. There may be the possibility of trouble in prison camps in this area, but that is all. Any resistance activity could come about only as the result of a new war, as the population needs strength from the outside. All conversation about liberation through their own efforts is wasted utopian thinking and impossible and baseless optimism. For example, nothing was accomplished by the East German riots, and the Soviet police system is a thousand times stronger than the Nazi system. Thus, source feels that the unification of Germany is impossible and that this effort represents nothing but conversation, hopes, and nonsense.
2. Source feels that the time will come when the leaders of the USSR will decide to start a war, and that when this time comes the Soviets will move first and without any consideration for humanity. They will be absolutely sure that they will win the war, but this does not mean that their calculations will be correct. They might make a major error in their assessment of strategic strengths. At the present time, the main aim of the Soviets is to undermine politically the US position in Europe, the Middle East, and the Far East, and elsewhere, using fifth column techniques. US Secretary of State Dulles was

SECRET

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SECRET

-2-

absolutely correct when he pointed out in Caracas, Venezuela, that the main threat in Latin America at the present time is Communism and Communist activities.

3. The passage of time works to the advantage of the USSR and China, and not to the advantage of the US. The USSR knows how to produce atomic weapons and is making progress in industry, especially heavy industry. The population of the USSR lacks consumer goods; but, with the people under control as they are and will be, they can continue to improve heavy industry. Increasing the quantity of consumer goods is just "throwing a bone to a dog"; it helps to keep the people fairly quiet and not too dissatisfied. The US Government must be very watchful concerning Soviet achievements in the aircraft industry. The main task of the USSR from the military point of view is to achieve the same success in the aircraft industry as the US has, as this is the weak point in the position of the USSR. In source's opinion, the Soviets will strike when they have sufficient strategic air strength, and it will take six to ten years for them to reach this level. Source feels that the US is correct in emphasizing air power, and Soviet realization of the importance of air power was the first indication that their plans had changed.
4. Along with the developments in the field of aircraft are those concerning the hydrogen bomb and atomic weapons. Source agrees with Secretary of Defense Wilson, who said that the USSR has tried to frighten the world by announcing developments in the atomic field. Of course, the Soviets have made achievements in this field, but they probably have been purposely exaggerated. Exaggeration is a typical Soviet characteristic and tactic. Another example of this tactic is the emplacement of dummy aircraft on Soviet airfields in Europe (either European USSR or Soviet-occupied areas) to fool the US.
5. The Soviet Government is definitely worried that the US will attack the USSR first and by surprise. For example, as early as 1949 Lt. General Ivan Fedorovich Nikishov, formerly chief of Dalstroy, expressed to 25X1X 25X1X 25X1X that it was possible for an American representative to place a small atomic bomb in the Moscow subway. General Nikishov is 60 years old, Source feels that many other high-ranking Soviet officials feel the same way as General Nikishov does.
6. In addition to the Soviet lack of a sufficient number and quality of bomber aircraft, there are several other reasons why the USSR cannot start a war now. The USSR does not have a large naval fleet, and source feels that US military men have overestimated the naval strength of the USSR. The Soviet Navy possesses no aircraft carriers or battleships, only a few cruisers; and, although they have many submarines, these are not versatile enough or in great enough numbers for each type. In addition, gasoline, coal, and steel are not now in sufficient supply in the USSR to permit the Soviets to strike the US. When they are, and conditions improve, then it will be time for the Soviets to strike. In source's opinion this is not likely for another ten years, and that ten years is a short time, especially in the USSR.
7. The Soviets wish to finish off the US and its system, and create a new system in its place. However, it is impossible and against common sense to attempt it now. That is why there is so much talk about peace in the USSR at present.

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